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FM COMDT COGARD WASHINGTON DC//G-WK//
TO ALCOAST
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ALCOAST 007/05

COMDTNOTE 1521

SUBJ: PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT TRAINING PROGRAM

A. TRAINING AND EDUCATION MANUAL, COMDTINST M1500.10B, CHAP 3 (CH-1)

B. PERSONNEL MANUAL, COMDTINST M1000.6A, CHAP 1.A.7

1. THE HEALTH AND SAFETY DIRECTORATE IS SOLICITING APPLICATIONS FOR THE FY-2006 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT (PA) TRAINING PROGRAM. AS THIS MSG IS VERY DETAILED, MEMBERS SHOULD READ IT IN ITS ENTIRETY TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH CURRENT POLICY AND PROCEDURES. IN PARTICULAR, UNDERSTANDING REFERENCES (A) AND (B) IS ESSENTIAL TO THE APPLICATION PROCESS.

2. THE CG SPONSORED PA TRAINING PROGRAM IS CONDUCTED AT THE INTERSERVICE PA PROGRAM (IPAP), FORT SAM HOUSTON, SAN ANTONIO, TX. THIS PROGRAM IS 24.5 MOS LONG. PHASE I (50 WKS) IS HEAVILY DIDACTIC, OFFERING 96 SEMESTER HOURS (SH) AND CONSISTING OF BASIC MEDICAL AND CLINICAL SCIENCES. PHASE II (54 WKS) CONSIST OF CLINICAL ROTATIONS AND CONTINUED DIDACTIC INSTRUCTION, OFFERING AN ADDITIONAL 50 PLUS SH AT DESIGNATED DOD SERVICE SPECIFIC SITES. SELECTED APPLICANTS SHOULD EXPECT 3 PCS MOVES OVER 24 MOS. THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS SELECTED EACH YR FOR THE PROGRAM IS BASED UPON THE NEEDS OF THE CG, GENERALLY NOT TO EXCEED THREE.

3. IPAP STUDENTS RECEIVE A BS DEGREE UPON COMPLETION OF PHASE I AND A MASTERS DEGREE UPON COMPLETION OF PHASE II FROM THE UNIV OF NEBRASKA. CG STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM IPAP RECEIVE A CG COMMISSION AS A TEMPORARY REGULAR ENSIGN. THESE OFFICERS INCUR A 3 FOR 1 SERVICE PAYBACK OBLIGATION FOR THEIR FIRST YEAR OF TRAINING AND A 1 FOR 1 SERVICE PAYBACK OBLIGATION FOR THEIR SECOND YEAR OF TRAINING, FOR A TOTAL PAYBACK OBLIGATION OF 4 YEARS CG SERVICE.

4. PREREQUISITES FOR THIS PROGRAM INCLUDE:

A. CG ACTIVE DUTY ENLISTED PERSONNEL, E-4 OR ABOVE, IN SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT ENLISTMENT. WAIVERS FOR TIME IN SERVICE REQUIREMENT MAY BE CONSIDERED BASED ON NEEDS OF THE SERVICE, BUT CANNOT BE LESS THAN 3 YEARS OF ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE AT TIME OF APPLICATION. COMMISSIONED WARRANT OFFICERS AND REGULAR OFFICERS ARE NOT ELIGIBLE TO APPLY.

B. DOCUMENTED 100 HRS OF PATIENT CARE EXPERIENCE AS AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT), HEALTH SERVICE TECHNICIAN (HS), PARAMEDIC, HOSPITAL VOLUNTEER, OR OTHER HEALTH RELATED FIELD. DOCUMENTATION MUST BE IN LTR FORM FROM A SUPERVISOR IN THE FACILITY WHERE THE EXPERIENCE WAS GAINED, OR, FOR CG EMTS AND HEALTH

SERVICES TECHNICIANS, A COMMAND ENDORSEMENT THAT DOCUMENTS THE EXPERIENCE.

C. BE PHYSICALLY QUALIFIED FOR WORLDWIDE DUTY AND PASS A PRE-COMMISSIONING PHYSICAL EXAMINATION IAW CHAPTER 3-E-3, OF THE CG MEDICAL MANUAL, COMDTINST M6000.1B.

D. HAVE NO COURT-MARTIAL CONVICTIONS OR NON-JUDICIAL PUNISHMENT (NJP) DURING CURRENT ENLISTMENT.

E. APPLICANT MUST BE A UNITED STATES CITIZEN.

F. OBTAIN A MINIMUM SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT OR SAT-1) SCORE OF 1000 (VERBAL AND MATH COMBINED) WITHIN THE PREVIOUS 5 YRS.

G. HAVE A MINIMUM OF 60 SEMESTER HRS (SH) OF TRANSFERABLE COLLEGE CREDITS WITH A GRADE POINT AVERAGE OF 2.5 ON A 4.0 SCALE. AT LEAST 30 SH MUST BE IN RESIDENT AND UP TO 30 SH MAY BE OBTAINED THROUGH MILITARY SCHOOLS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION, CLEP OR DANTES. NONRESIDENT SH MUST BE ACCEPTABLE BY THE UNIV OF NEBRASKA, AND BE REPORTED ON A COAST GUARD INSTITUTE EDUCATION ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET (CGI-1560/04E).

H. MANDATORY COLLEGE LEVEL COURSES AND MINIMUM SEMESTER HOURS (SH) INCLUDE:

- (1) ALGEBRA (100 LEVEL OR HIGHER) 3 SH
- (2) ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY 6 SH (OR 3 SH OF EACH)
- (3) CHEMISTRY 6 SH
- (4) ENGLISH 6 SH (3 SH MUST BE ENGLISH COMPOSITION)
- (5) HUMANITIES/SOCIAL SCIENCES 6 SH
- (6) PSYCHOLOGY 3 SH

I. IN ADDITION TO THE COMMAND ENDORSEMENT REQUIRED AS PART OF THE E-RESUME PROCESS, APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION: TWO LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION FROM U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE/CG PHYSICIANS OR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS WHO ARE FAMILIAR WITH THE APPLICANTS MEDICAL EXPERIENCE AND PROPENSITY FOR CLINICAL CARE. NON-HEALTH SERVICE TECHNICIAN (HS) APPLICANTS MAY SUBSTITUTE A LETTER FROM A CIVILIAN PHYSICIAN OR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WHO IS FAMILIAR WITH THE APPLICANTS HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE. A THIRD LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION, FROM ANY UNIFORMED SERVICES COMMISSIONED OFFICER, MUST SPECIFICALLY ADDRESS ISSUES OF LEADERSHIP AND THE APPLICANTS POTENTIAL TO BECOME A CG COMMISSIONED OFFICER.

J. APPLICANTS MUST SUBMIT A SELF-COMPOSED, TYPED ESSAY (350 WORDS OR LESS) EXPRESSING THEIR REASON FOR DESIRING TO BECOME A CG OFFICER AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, HOW THE CG WILL BENEFIT BY SELECTING THEM, AND A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OR EXAMPLE OF HOW THEY RESPOND TO STRESSFUL SITUATIONS.

5. APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE AN E-RESUME AND SELECT THE POSITION ASSOCIATED WITH THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT POST GRADUATE PROGRAM.

6. FORWARDING COMMAND ENDORSEMENTS, VIA THE E-INTERVIEW, SHALL INCLUDE A CONSIDERED OPINION OF THE APPLICANTS LEADERSHIP,

alcoast007-05

INTERESTS, ABILITY AND POTENTIAL VALUE TO THE SERVICE AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT. ONLY ENDORSEMENTS FROM THE IMMEDIATE COMMAND ARE AUTHORIZED. IN THE "JOB ENDORSEMENT" PAGE UNDER THE "RECOMMENDATION" DROP-DOWN MENU, COMMANDING OFFICERS SHOULD CHOOSE "MAKE OFFER" TO POSITIVELY ENDORSE A CANDIDATES APPLICATION.

7. APPLICANTS MUST SEPARATELY MAIL REMAINING APPLICATION MATERIALS SUCH AS OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS, SAT SCORES, THREE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION, PERSONAL ESSAY, PRE-COMMISSIONING PHYSICAL EXAMINATION, CERTIFIED DOCUMENTATION OF HEALTH CARE EXPERIENCE, SIGNED PAYBACK STATEMENT, AND A SIGNED PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT TO CGPC-OPM-1. ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS MUST BE RECEIVED NLT 15 MAY 05.

8. CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO SEEK AMPLIFYING INFO ON ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, PREREQUISITES, AND APPLICATION PROCEDURES BY CONTACTING LCDR MARC HAWKINS, COMDT (G-WKH-2), AT (202) 267-6070. QUESTIONS REGARDING THE PROCESSING OF ADV ED APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO YN1 ADA HARRIS (CGPC-OPM-1), AT (202) 493-1617.

9. INTERNET RELEASE AUTHORIZED.

10. RADM PAUL J. HIGGINS, DIRECTOR OF HEALTH AND SAFETY, SENDS
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